

# **Maurice Hinchey NEWS**

## **26<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK**

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### **LOURDES MEMORIAL AWARDED \$631,374 TO ENHANCE RURAL HEALTH SERVICES**

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today announced that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded a Community Access Program grant of \$631,374 to Our Lady of Lourdes Memorial Hospital. Lourdes will use the grant for a project called the Southern Tier Family Health Link Program.

"The services that this project will provide are badly needed and overdue," said Hinchey. "People in rural areas often have a difficult time getting proper medical services, particularly when they have inadequate health insurance. This project will greatly increase access to important health resources."

The Southern Tier Family Health Link Program will enhance community infrastructure and coordination of medical services for the uninsured and underinsured in rural Broome County, Tioga County, and western Delaware County. The project will be undertaken in partnership with the coalition responsible for the Rural Health Network of South Central New York, of which Lourdes is a founding member.

Sister Kathleen Natwin, Vice President of Mission and Community Outreach Services at Lourdes, said, "This is a wonderful opportunity for our rural community in the Southern Tier. We hope to achieve better enrollment in a variety of programs that provide health care, support research into electronic exchange of medical information, and increase the resources available in rural settings."

The Department of Health and Human Services' Community Access Program (CAP) seeks to expand access to the uninsured by increasing the effectiveness and capacity of the nation's health care safety net at the community level. CAP is managed by the Health Resources and Services Administration.